

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND  
PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS,  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,  
BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE  
AND DISCIPLINE

vs.

Paul K. Lugthart, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER

Pursuant to Section 5-37-5.1 of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended, a complaint was filed with the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (hereinafter referred to as "Board") charging Paul K. Lugthart, M.D., Respondent, with violations of Section 5-37-5.1 (19) of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended. An investigation was conducted by Investigating Committee II, so called of the Board. After consideration by Investigating Committee II of the Board.

Investigating Committee II reported its evaluations and recommendations to the Board. The report was reviewed by the Board and it recommended further action.

The following constitutes the Investigating Committee's Findings of Fact with respect to the professional performance of the Respondent.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On June 10, 1988 a sixty-two year old female patient presented to a hospital emergency room with complaints of pain in her shoulder and chest and nausea following her morning coffee. The Respondent, the emergency room physician on duty, ordered an EKG, cardiac enzymes and sub-lingual nitroglycerin for the patient. The Respondent read the wrong patient's EKG and interpreted it as within normal limits. The patient was given Maalox and reported resolution of her symptoms. The patient was discharged from

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the emergency room with instructions to follow-up with her own physician. The patient suffered a myocardial infarction shortly after discharge. It was subsequently discovered that her EKG was abnormal.

2. The Respondent's failure to interpret the correct EKG is in violation of Rhode Island General Laws 5-37-5.1 (19).

The parties agree as follows:

(1) Respondent is a physician licensed and doing business under and by virtue of the Laws of the State of Rhode Island, allopathic license No. 7151. Respondents mailing address, 1375 South Old Wilke Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005.

(2) Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board.

(3) Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of the Investigating Committee II of the Board and is subject to the final approval of the Board. This Consent Order is not binding on respondent until final ratification by the Board.

(4) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:

- a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;
- b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
- c. The right to cross examine witnesses;
- d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;

Consent Order;

- g. Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;
- h. Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to adequately review this Consent Order;
- i. Any objection to the fact the Board reviewing this Consent Order may be the same as the hearing committee presiding over this matter should it be later brought to and administrative hearing;
- j. Any objection to the fact that potential bias may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order to the Board.

(5) This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties and accepted by the Board. It shall be published as the Board, in its exercise of its discretion, shall determine.

(6) Acceptance of this Consent Order constitutes an admission of the facts set forth herein.

(7) Respondent voluntarily accepts the Board's sanction of a Reprimand.

Signed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 1992.

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline at  
a meeting held on *12 August*, 1992.

*Barbara A. DeBuono*  
Barbara A. DeBuono M.D., M.P.H.  
Chairperson  
Board of Medical Licensure and  
Discipline